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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

h re application of:

Shigeki OUCHI

Serial No.:

Unknown

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington DC 20231

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Filed:

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MAY 0 2 2003

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Examiner: Unknown

For:

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Technology Center 2600

Sir:

Please consider the following remarks prior to examination of the above-referenced application:

REMARKS

Section 102 Rejections

The Examiner has cited the Abe reference for rejecting claims 1 through 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e). For the pending 102(e) rejection, we had argued in the previous response that the current invention as recited in independent claims 1 and 19 is patentably distinct over the disclosures in the Abe et al. reference based upon the amended subject matter limitation, "a single value based upon multiple criteria obtained during said character recognition and said title evaluation" In response to the above argument, the Examiner cited the disclosures at lines 32 through 52 in column 3 of the Abe et al. reference. The Examiner particularly pointed out that "information" on line 48. However, the same sentence reads on as a whole that "[t]hese units respectively generate information and temporarily store in a memory unit 40." The respective information includes "a font type," "a font size" and "a layout." These pieces of the information remain in a plurality of distinct information and fail to be integrated into "a single value" as